

**BRIEFING ON WEST COAST GOVERNORS' GLOBAL WARMING  
INITIATIVE**

**BRIEFING PAPER**

Prepared for the  
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**PURPOSE:**

This will be an informational briefing for the Commission to provide an overview of the West Coast Governors' Global Warming Initiative. The overview will include reviewing policy recommendations on reduction strategies. Also, we will outline Department of Transportation's involvement in this initiative and views on the policies.

**ACTION/OUTCOME:**

Informational.

**BACKGROUND:**

In September 2003, the Governors of Washington, Oregon, and California committed to a regional greenhouse gas reduction initiative. The Governors concluded that global warming will have serious adverse consequences on the economy, health, and environment of the west coast states and that the states should act to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In addition to improving air quality, this effort will allow the states to achieve a variety of economic benefits from less dependence on fossil fuels. As an initial step, the Governors directed their staffs to develop joint policy recommendations on reduction strategies that require regional cooperation and action.

Policy recommendations have been released as part of this initiative that cover the following topics:

Hybrid Vehicle Procurement: Use the states' combined purchasing power to obtain fuel-efficient vehicles and low-rolling resistance tires for motor pool fleets.

Ports and Highway Diesel Emissions: Reduce emissions from diesel fuel in transportation through reducing the diesel generator use in ships at ports and in diesel engines use in trucks by creating a system of emission-free truck stops along Interstate 5.

Renewable Energy: Remove barriers to and encourage developing renewable electricity generation capability.

Energy Efficiency: Improve efficiency standards with the potential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions

Measurement: Develop greenhouse gas emission inventories, protocols for standard reporting, and accounting measures to greenhouse gas emissions.

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